

BUSH BULLETIN



HOME BUSH BOYS HIGH SCHOOL

Recte Et Fortiter - Upright and Strong

Safety | Learning | Respect

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PRINCIPAL REPORT

Mr Kevin Elgood



2022 has been a busy and challenging year following the disruptions caused by the COVID pandemic in previous years. While teachers and students quickly adapted to online learning during the previous lockdowns, some better than others, we were all happy to have our students back in the school this year and have learning back where it belongs in the classrooms.

The experience we gained from the online learning period has certainly resulted in changes in the way many teachers now teach. There has been an observable change in many classrooms where online tools and resources are significant more prevalent than before the online period. This can only enhance the learning opportunities for our students.

Recently we have been fortunate to have a number of projects approved for construction around the school, including the conversion of our old Gym to a **new Library**, which began early in the year but has been delayed for various reasons. We all look forward to this being finalised in early 2023. Other projects which will start over the Christmas holidays and go into Term 1 2023, include:

- ❖ the upgrade of our old outside **Basketball court**;
- ❖ the construction of a **new multi-purpose futsal court** on the Southern Grass;
- ❖ the construction of a **shade structure** in the main quadrangle between D Block and the fig tree;
- ❖ an **administration upgrade** which will involve: enlarging the main entrance foyer, increasing the size of our administration office by extending it down into my current office, my office moving to the end of the building, a new meeting room, new interview rooms and finally we get a chair storeroom so that we do not have chairs cluttering the back of the hall during special assemblies and events;
- ❖ a new **Learning Centre** will be introduced where the old library is now;
- ❖ a new **Bus/Storage Shed**;
- ❖ full replacement of the **A Block roof**, which will hopefully put an end to the leaks;
- ❖ Landscaping of the **Senior Area**;
- ❖ **Bitumen replacement**, throughout the Quadrangle once the projects above have all been completed.

We have not seen such improvements for many years, and we are all looking forward to benefits for our school community when these projects are completed.

Best wishes for the festive season

It has been a pleasure to work with the students, parents, teachers and support staff at Homebush Boys this year. On behalf of the whole school community I wish every family a very merry Christmas, a happy new year and a wonderful holiday. Stay safe. I hope that all boys enjoy the rest and relaxation that the summer holidays provide and look forward to returning to school fresh for 2023.

Mr Kevin Elgood

Principal



RELIEVING PRINCIPAL REPORT

Ms Jennie Dalamagas



2022 is coming to a closure and what a wonderful year we have had. Term 4 has been a term of acknowledging and celebrating our successes.

This year our Head Teacher, Teaching & Learning, Ms Leila Achmad was instrumental in moving forward our students in Literacy. Our Year 7 to 9 students all have timetabled Literacy periods where explicit literacy skills are taught by Ms Achmad and our literacy teachers. Our students have greatly benefitted from having Literacy in conjunction to English lessons in their curriculum. The Literacy faculty saw significant improvement in student writing, predominately in Years 7 & 8 where most students achieved their expected reading growth or received a result beyond their reading growth.

2022 also saw our first Enrichment Class in Year 7 and we look forward to an Enrichment Class in Year 7 and Year 8 in 2023. Pythagoras was our first Year 7 Enrichment class and their hard work and consistent efforts were evident across the 4 domains of high potential, intellectual, creative, social-emotional and physical. Three students in this class were nominated to represent the cohort in a state-wide competition, The Quest, at the Australian Catholic University in North Sydney.



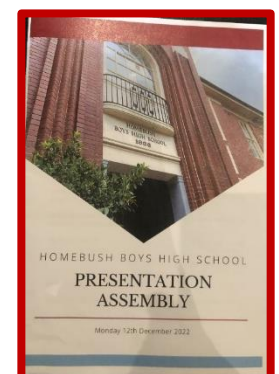
Ms Achmad has also been responsible for the Professional Learning of our staff and for overseeing the accreditation process. It is for this reason Ms Achmad received the Metropolitan South Operational Directorate 2022 Principals Network Award for her dedication and commitment to Homebush Boys High School.

Our Presentation Day on Monday 12 December 2022 was a very empowering celebration of our achievements throughout this year. I was greatly honoured, as the Relieving Principal, to lead this day in acknowledging our students in their academic, co-curricular and sporting achievements. It was great pleasure to have our special guests in attendance, Ms Maria Serafim, Director Educational Leadership, Mr Jason Li, MP Member for Strathfield, Ms Mechel Pikoulas, Principal Strathfield Girls High, Ms Estelle Southall, Principal Homebush West and the ZONTA president and vice-president, Ms Diana Humphries and Lorna

Parker. Our Presentation Day was definitely a success with the Director formally acknowledging Homebush Boys High School's achievements.

I personally want to congratulate all of our incoming leaders and wish them the best in achieving their future aspirations. Our leaders have already proven to be a very collegial, proactive group of students who will make outstanding leaders, both at school and externally. Special acknowledgement to our school captains, Venkatvidipreddy Mallemla & Aryan Rodrigues for leading Presentation Day.

A special acknowledgement also needs to go to Ms Christina Papavramidis and to Ms Lidia Budanovic for all their dedication and work with the leadership teams. Ms Papavramidis has been instrumental in leading this initiative. She has ensured our leaders are well prepared by



conducting a 2-day Student Leadership Conference where all leaders were fully versed in the importance of their role at HBHS and beyond. Ms Papavramidis was also instrumental in conducting a Leadership Planning day where our student leaders mapped and wrote all their proposals for 2022 -2023 years. This included all fundraising initiatives and school proposals.

I wish to congratulate all of our leadership body and Ms Papavramidis and acknowledge their roles and efforts in making Homebush Boys High School a school that exemplifies the values of Public Education.

2022 has seen many changes to the infrastructure of our school. In 2023 we will have a new state of the art school library, an external learning structure, a new basketball court, a new futsal court, as well as an extension to our Special Education faculty. 2023 promises to be another exiting year.

Our students have progressed once again into another year and will shortly commence a new year. It has been a great year and I am honour to be part of this progressive high school. It has been a productive year where a great deal of positivity and educational achievements have been clearly evident.

This year our school motto has been truly honoured:

Recte Et Fortiter | Upright and Strong

Wishing all our families and community a wonderful festive season and hopefully 2023 will also be a rewarding year for our staff and students.



DEPUTY PRINCIPAL REPORT

Mr Cheiban Elaro

Years 7 & 10



By the time you read this, the 2022 school year would have expired.

The way it ended is not how we envisioned it, but the professionalism and dedication of the staff has enabled us to get to the finish line with grace.

Some highlights for 2022 include the numerous building projects in the school; reviving the traditional annual school magazine; and inviting parents and friends to the end of year Presentation Day.

The various projects around the school include the old gym being converted into a modern library with a STEM space and study areas. We will also have a new multipurpose sports court on the Southern Grass and the old basketball courts will be revamped. Most of the quad area west of the fig-tree will be covered by the end of February. A large solar energy system will be installed by the middle of term 1 in 2023, with 3 banks of batteries storing electricity. This is a fantastic opportunity to reduce our school's carbon footprint and teach students about renewable energy. As well, work on a large storage shed will begin soon. As well, the roof on the A Block is being replaced; the work should conclude before school resumes in 20223. These projects are only possible because of our Principal, Mr Elgood's, vision and persistence over the past 4 years.

You will be receiving an email asking you to download the 2022 Homebush Boys School Magazine. It has taken more than a term of hard work by Ms Angelene Karas and her team of Year 8 students. They have been cajoling, persuading, begging various staff members to submit their relevant contributions during that time. I can't thank Ms Karas enough for her vision and persistence in making the magazine possible. And we look forward to an annual magazine in the coming years.

We held the 2022 Presentation Day on Monday 12 December at the Marie Bashir Primary School Auditorium. Over 170 students were recognised for their academic, sporting and extra-curricular excellence. It is a huge undertaking and it would not have been possible without Ms Lidia Budanovic's leadership and hard work. She spent countless hours organising and finalising awards and the ceremony. She was supported by Ms Lucy Napoli and Ms Melissa Gullifa, who also spent many hours ensuring all the names and awards were correct, the program was perfect and the official party were all accounted for. It was a magnificent day of celebrating excellence at Homebush Boys HS.

I also need to recognise the contributions of Ms Annabel Chapman for her leadership and support of the Wellbeing Team over the past 5 or 6 years. She mentored all the Year Advisers and refined process that helped improve communication and student support during her tenure. The Head Teacher Welfare is changing in 2023 to include Learning Support, with the new Head Teacher for the start of 2023 being Ms Lisa Brien. Welcome to Ms Brien and I look forward to working closely with her to establish the new position within the school.

On a personal note, I can't thank Mr Kevin Elgood, Ms Jennie Dalamagas and Ms Catherine Player for their support and guidance this year. And I have worked to support 4 fantastic Head Teachers this year and they have taught me more than they know. Thanks to Abderrahim Abbou (HT TAS), Leila Achmad (HT Literacy), Annabel Chapman (HT Wellbeing) and Mr Thomas Lee (HT English) for their commitment to our students, their support of staff and their innovations in their respective areas. We laughed together, we cried together and we all became better professionals in the process.

Finally, thanks to the parents for their support of what we are doing at school and for their high expectations of us and their sons. We have wonderful young men at HBHS and I look forward to working with them again in 2023.

Wishing you all a safe and healthy break.

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL REPORT

Miss Catherine Player

Years 9 & 12



Year 9

What an amazing year 2022 has been. It was our first full year of face-to-face learning after 2 interrupted years due to COVID lockdowns and there was certainly an energy and excitement in the classrooms to be back together as a learning community. It was also wonderful that we could resume all of our community events to celebrate milestones within our academic year that we so desperately missed over the last few years. External presenters and educators for both students and staff, parent teacher nights, leadership investitures, art exhibitions, musical show cases and presentation days. All important events that we could finally celebrate together again as our Homebush community. As Henry Ford said, *'coming together is the beginning, keeping together is progress, working together is success.'* I can certainly say in 2022 we come back together as a learning community stronger and more committed to ensuring our students become *strong and upright* young men as our motto says.



As Deputy of Years 9 and 12, it was a year of new starts and final milestones. Our Year 9's started stage 5 and for the first time they got to choose two of their subjects. From Food Technology to Timber, Military History to PASS and many, many more. They really jumped into their studies and many students discovered and explored hidden talents. On the sporting fields Year 9 excelled both in school and beyond. Enzo Moon came second in the Jack Newton Junior golf tournament, Luka Pihl Morrison headed to Spain and Eugene Lim headed to Italy for soccer academies and Daniel El-Hakim competed again on the ski fields just to name a few. As well as Rivaan Kapadia winning the Premiers Sporting Challenge medal and many, many more achievements by all of Year nine.

Our Commerce students held a very successful market day where they developed, operated, and ran food businesses at lunchtime. The variety of food on sale really showed their innovative capabilities. Our wonderful Year 9 elective band held their first official performance at the CAPA showcase to the delight of the crowds. Jake Ruan made it to the showcase at Bondi for his photography in the Head On National Photographic competition and Emre Boz was recognised for his achievements in Public Speaking. All amazing efforts!



A group of year 9 students also took part in the NRL In League In Harmony leadership program. 5 of these students, Abdulkarim Taha, Zack Shand, Osman Sesay, Gazi Mahjana, Aidan Dunn and Jerry Wei, were selected as student ambassadors, a great achievement. So many wonderful moments and this is just a snapshot. All I can say is that I am one proud Deputy of their many and varied achievements this year. A big thank you goes to Ms Misbah Khan and Ms Sathya Kumaralingum for their hard work and dedication to year 9 and I look forward to working with them both next year to support our boys as they move into year 10.

STOP PRESS

Chaksh Sharma has earned the Premiers Reading Challenge Medal for reading 20 books in the timeframe of the competition. The challenge aims to encourage a love of reading for leisure and pleasure in students, and to enable them to Experience quality literature. Congratulations Chaksh on this great achievement.



At Presentation Day, many of our students were rewarded for their hard work through their Academic, Extra-Curricular and Sporting achievements. Winners included:

ACADEMIC AWARDS

- ❖ First in Physical Activity & Sports Studies
Yousef ADRA
- ❖ First in English
Shabbir ARSIWALA
- ❖ First in Music
Kenzo CAILLOCE
- ❖ First in Geography
Naitik Chhantyal THAPA
- ❖ Equal First in Food Technology
Jaylan DUFF
- ❖ First in Industrial Technology Electronics
Naveen JEGENDRAN
- ❖ First in Korean Non-Background Speakers
Junxi JIANG
- ❖ First in Industrial Technology Timber
Ayman KHALID
- ❖ First in Graphics Technology
Calvin LAI
- ❖ First in PDHPE
Collin LU
- ❖ First in Military History
Steven LAM
- ❖ Equal First in Food Technology
Arshkirat OBEROI
- ❖ First in Commerce
Jahin RASHID
- ❖ First in Visual Arts
Jake RUAN
- ❖ Equal First in Mathematics 5.3
Ahash THIYAGALINGAM
- ❖ First in Mathematics 5.1
Emirhan TUNA
- ❖ First in Aboriginal Studies
Tianjia WANG
- ❖ First in Mathematics 5.2
Antonio YANG
- ❖ First in Korean Background Speakers
Hanul YOU
- ❖ First in Literacy | First in Information & Software Technology
Emre BOZ
- ❖ Equal First in Mathematics 5.3 | First in Science | First in Year 9
Ridhwan SIKDER

SPORTING AWARDS

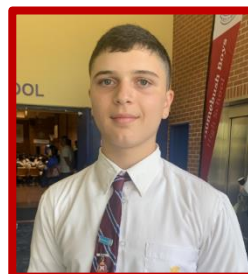
- ❖ Captain's Banner 14A Football
Omar DOUREIHI
- ❖ Best & Fairest 15S Badminton
Sai BOPPE
- ❖ Best & Fairest 15A Football
Gazi MAHAJNA
- ❖ Best & Fairest 2nd Grade Badminton
Brendan PARK

- ❖ House Champion Swimming – Howe Toby CHIEM
- ❖ 14 Years Age Champion Cross Country | House Champion Cross Country – Greening Daniel EL-HAKIM
- ❖ Captain’s Banner 15S Badminton Chaksh SHARMA
- ❖ Junior Sportsman of the Year Adnan DARWICHE
- ❖ Best & Fairest 15B Football Neel GANDHY | Jayse HOANG
- ❖ Captain’s Banner 14S Rugby | Best & Fairest 14S Rugby Hafez ZREIKA
- ❖ Best & Fairest 15A Football Gazi MAHAJNA
- ❖ Premier’s Sporting Challenge Medal | 14 Years Age Champion Swimming | House Champion Swimming – Greening | Overall Champion Swimming | Champion Athlete – Greening | Junior Sportsman of the Year Rivaan KAPADIA

CO-CURRICULAR & SPECIAL AWARDS

- ❖ Frederick Douglass Award Mohamed TARSHAN
- ❖ Year Adviser Award for Sport Adnan DARWICHE
- ❖ Year Adviser Award for Creative Arts Jake RUAN
- ❖ Year Adviser Award for Leadership Abdulkarim TAHA
- ❖ Year Adviser Award for Academic Excellence | Intermediate Chess Award Henry CHEN
- ❖ Junior Public Speaking Award Emre BOZ | Brendan LE
- ❖ Debating Award Rashed RANA
- ❖ Year Adviser Award for Community Contribution | Commonwealth Parliamentarian Merit Award For Community Contribution Youssef TABIKH

Congratulations to all our Year 9 Award winners. I am so very proud of all your achievements this year.



Some reflections from Year Nine on their learning and achievements this year:

“Participating In extra-curricular activities including Interact Club and Environment club”

“The school CAPA night as I got to perform in front of an audience for the first time in High School with many of my friends. Overall, it was a great experience I hope to do again.”

“The Athletics Carnival because it has allowed me to gain the experience of competing with other people.”

“... Visual Arts and being the school photographer.”

“The construction of the new playground in the southern grass and allowing everyone to play on it.”

“Getting to participate in Market Day, selling food and making a profit!”

“Helping with the Science program for Marie Bashir Primary School and I enjoyed my electives lessons which allowed for opportunities for new experiences.”

“When I was playing junior grade badminton and the first 3 people on my team lost, then I won the fourth game and got the first win of the season. Everyone on my team cheered me on.”

“Participating as a goalkeeper in 15’s B Grade Football. I had a great time playing with my friends.”

“Water polo with my friends and beating Normanhurst!”

“Getting a distinction in the Australian Mathematics Competition.”

“Participating and being included for the food stalls on multi-cultural day and letting people experience and taste food from my Pakistani culture.”

“Learn as much as you can while you are young, since life becomes too busy.”

Year 12



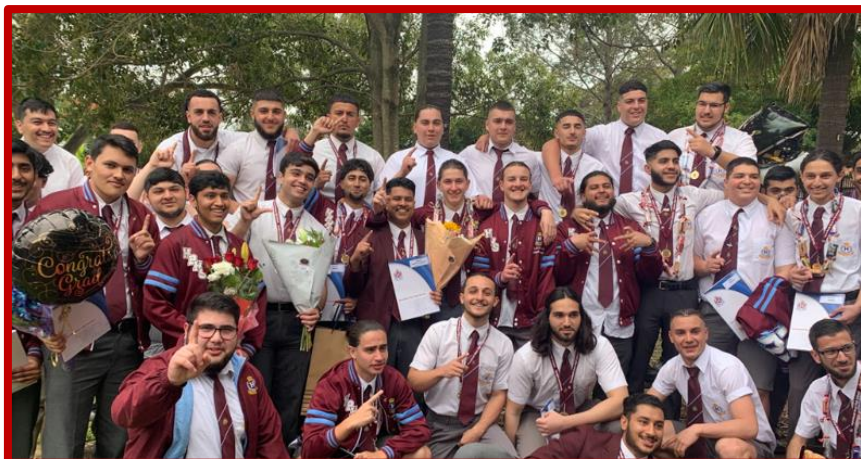
For Year 12, it was a year of final events. Our final year together started with the leaders being chosen. Our Prefect team, headed by our Captains William Knight and Anargyros Kallos, were a dedicated and hard-working group of young men that really left their mark on the school. They represented the school with dignity and honour in and beyond the school and truly demonstrated what it means to be a Bushy Boy. At our swimming and athletics carnivals, fund raising events at school like the Worlds Greatest shave as well as mentoring the younger students, Year 12 shone on every stage.



2022 was also a year of milestones for Year 12. HSC examinations, Final School Assembly, Graduation, and School Formal. All of these events were celebrated to ensure the students enjoyed their final days at HBHS. They have developed into a group of fine young men with many diverse talents and skills. I would like to thank Year 12 for sharing their talents, skills, generosity, and humour with our community over the last 6 years.



They have given so much, been great role models and really left their mark on HBHS. I wish them every success in the future and look forward to hearing their results and seeing where their future pathway leads them. They will always be Bushy Boys and will definitely make their mark on the world in style. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Ms Sharon Cuneen and Ms Joanna Carrasco, the Year 12 Year Advisors, for all their hard work and support of Year 12. Their dedication to our Year 12s has been amazing and the students were lucky to have their support and guidance. I have enjoyed working with them both and we will all miss our year 12s as they leave to take on the world.



All in all, 2022 has been an exciting and action-packed year. We have grown and learnt many new lessons over the course of the year. Thank you to the staff for their continued dedication to our students. It has been wonderful to see the innovative practices that instil a joy of learning into the students each and every day. Thank you to our community for supporting us throughout the year, you make our learning community stronger through your support. I wish everyone a safe and happy holiday and look forward to new learning adventures and experiences in 2023.



School Finishes on Friday 16 December 2022.

The school will be closed over Christmas and throughout January

Term 1, 2023

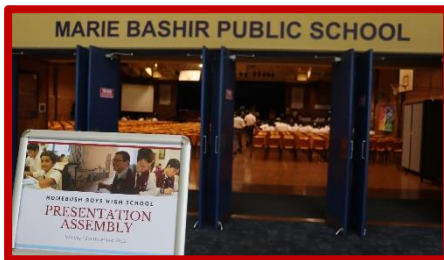
- ✓ Friday 27 January 2023: Staff Development Day (no students)
- ✓ Monday 30 January 2023: Staff Development Day (no students)
- ✓ Tuesday 31 January 2023: Year 7, Year 11, Year 12 Return to School
- ✓ Wednesday 1 February 2023: All Students return to school
- ✓ Wednesday 15 February 2023: Year 7 Camp (3-days)
- ✓ Friday 3 March 2023: School Swimming Carnival
- ✓ Friday 18 March 2023: Year 7 Vaccinations
- ✓ Thursday 6 April 2023: School Athletics Carnival
- ✓ Thursday 6 April 2023: Last day of Term 1



CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS & LANGUAGES

Mr Emile Norrish
Head Teacher

It's been a big finish to 2022 for the Creative and Performing Arts department at Homebush Boys High School as we finished the year on a high note, with performances at the first inaugural CAPA Music GALA, and the HBHS presentation assembly.



The CAPA Music GALA was a great success, with students from Strathfield Girls High School joining our elective Music students as they performed a series of five concerts for each of our year groups during week 9. This event was live streamed for parents, teachers and students who could not attend the event. If you would like to watch the livestream, you can find it on the school website, or follow the link below.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z-FCUyf4VMU>



In Visual Arts, students in Stage 4 worked to complete murals to brighten up some of the spaces around our art rooms. Fresh off a Street Art unit, these students demonstrated their skills in stencil art and graphic design as they created works based around significant artists and their works.



I would like to thank and acknowledge the hard work and dedication of our CAPA faculty of 2022, including our three Visual Arts teachers, Mr Anthony Letsios, Ms Carrie Newton and Mrs Lee-Anne Corrigan, and our Music teacher Mr Callum Alexander. Have a safe and happy holiday period, and I look forward to another exciting year in CAPA in 2023.

LANGUAGES

Korean Educational Centre in Sydney hosted the Korea-Australia Educational Friendship Dinner on Friday 2nd of December 2022.

Many Korean teachers and educators were invited and our Principal, Mr Elgood and Korean teacher, Ms Yu attended on behalf of Homebush Boys High School.

It was fabulous to cruise along Sydney harbour whilst networking and it was inspirational to hear about rapidly growing numbers of Korean learners in other schools.

We enjoyed Korean traditional music with a modern twist and delicious food as well.

Mr. Elgood even won a prize and the night finished with fireworks!

Looking forwards to another one next year.



HUMAN SOCIETY IN IT'S ENVIRONMENT

Ms Christina Papavramidis
Head Teacher

"We live in a social, cultural and physical environment that is ever changing and evolving, from historical times to the present. Human Society and its Environment opens the eyes of young students to the world and its environs and equips them with the learning experiences, knowledge, skills and attitudes that will enable them to participate more effectively and sensitively in our global community".

Human Society and its Environment is the study of how humans interact with the world, how society operates and how it is changing. Through the study of HSIE, students develop the skills to prepare them to actively and responsibly participate as informed citizens in the contemporary world. The study of History is an inquiry into the past that helps to explain how people, events and forces from the past have shaped our world. It allows students to locate and understand themselves and others in the continuum of human experience up to the present. Whereas, the study of Geography enables students to establish their sense of place in the community and world, critically assess the ideas and opinions of others and to form and express their own ideas and arguments. It forms a basis for active participation in community life, ecological sustainability, creating a just society, promoting intercultural understanding and lifelong learning.

Within our large and diverse faculty, we aim to offer our students an insight and understanding of the contemporary issues of which they, as active citizens, must be informed and aware. These issues include the need to protect our changing global environment, the impact of globalisation and rapidly growing technology, the role of government, the importance of a stable legal system and the rights and responsibilities of individuals within society. Students also learn to critically analyse and interpret sources of evidence in order to construct reasoned explanations and a rational and informed argument based on evidence, drawn from the remains of the past.

Year 7 Geography

Year 7 Geography underwent many changes this year with the introduction of an Enrichment class. The students studied topics such as 'Landscapes & Landforms', 'Place and Liveability', 'Interconnections' and 'Water in the World'. In Term 1, Year 7's produced some outstanding models as part of their Place and Liveability project. They were also involved in fieldwork at HBHS where students learnt about how the landscape at HBHS is being used and how to manage it.

Models created by Ayden Keskin 7N and Virushan Vimalarajan 7P



Year 8 History

History students in Year 8 completed their studies of the Ancient World with a unit of work on Ancient Egypt. They explored the geography, religion, and society of the Egyptians from the importance of the Nile River to the almighty power of the pharaohs. But undoubtedly, the most popular part of the course was the practice of mummification, which involved a complex procedure of embalming and wrapping the body in preparation for the journey into the afterlife. Year 8 engaged in a hands-on group work activity in which they had to demonstrate, and explain, the process of mummification in the correct order. This activity was used to consolidate their knowledge and prepare them for their examination on Ancient Egypt, which tested several skills ranging from accurately recalling facts in multiple choice questions, identifying meaning from historical sources, and writing a well-structured, detailed paragraph about mummification.



Year 9 Geography

In 2022, Year 9 Geography students have been working hard on their literacy skills. They have been practising their extended response writing in preparation for their lifelong learning skills. Below is an extended response written by Qasim Muhammad in Year 9 GEO G.

Impacts of Human Alteration to Biomes

Human alteration has many environmental impacts on biomes. These alterations could be negative or positive. The human alterations include clearing land, infrastructure and mining.

Firstly, clearing land has multiple positive and negative environmental impacts. One of the positive impacts is making room to grow crops. By clearing huge areas of trees and even some forests, humans are able to plant a lot more crops and transfer the area into farming land. This translates into more food and resources for our survival. Another positive impact for clearing land is infrastructure. By clearing land, we have more space to build hospitals, schools and roads. There are however many negative impacts of clearing land. These include roads dividing the essential system of the biomes (meaning animals are separated from their ecosystems/biomes), erosion and possible flooding. To conclude, clearing land has multiple positive and negative environmental impacts.

Secondly mining has quite a few positive and negative environmental impacts. To start off, the positive impact of mining is the essential minerals we find. These minerals include, aluminium, copper, gold, iron,

lead, magnesium, nickel, silver and diamond. We can then use these minerals to make cars and other items necessary for our survival. The negative impacts of mining are air pollution, water pollution, soil erosion and destruction of ecosystems. In conclusion, mining has quite a few positive and negative environmental impacts.

Lastly, agriculture has multiple positive and negative impacts on the environment. Agriculture is the act of growing crops. The positive impacts of agriculture on the environment are lower greenhouse gas emissions and production of food. It is an important part of our life cycle and we would have no food without it. However, there are negative impacts to follow agriculture. These include climate change, deforestation, pollution and soil degradation. Therefore, agriculture has multiple positive and negative impacts on the environment.

In conclusion human alteration has many environmental impacts on biomes. These alterations have both positive and negative sides to them. Clearing land, mining and agriculture are crucial but also damaging to our survival. To conclude, human alteration has many environmental impacts on biomes.

Year 9 Military History

During Term 2 Year 9 Military History studied Heroes and Villains during these topics they considered why the same personality may be seen as a hero by some but a villain by others. The topic involved the study of significant leaders from the past, including Hannibal Barca, Alexander the Great, Saladin, Vlad Dracula, Che Guevara, Benito Mussolini, Pol Pot and Joseph Stalin. Students were also given the opportunity to research a personality and then present an argument supporting the view of the personality as either a hero or a villain. The class then concluded the topic with a detailed study of Oskar Schindler and developing an understanding of why a Nazi war profiteer was seen by Jewish holocaust survivors and their descendants as a hero.



Jayden Quan describes his experiences in Military History:

This year I am studying Military History. I am really enjoying the course which has many interesting topics and engaging activities. Our first topic, The Roman Army, included the study of a series of great battles in which the Roman Army fought and contributed to their legendary reputation as one of the greatest armies

in history. Having studied the battles, we then needed to assume the role of a journalist in Ancient Roman times and report on the battle in an Ancient Roman newspaper. We are now studying the topic Heroes or Villains. Over the term, we talked about whether or not certain people were considered heroes or villains which led to our assessment task in which we had to create a presentation and deliver a speech on a chosen historical personality. I researched Che Guevara, who played an important role in the Cuban communist revolution. So far, I have really enjoyed Military History. It has been a great learning experience.

Year 9 Commerce

Commerce has become one of the most popular electives chosen by Year 8 students as a subject to study in Year 9 and 10. The reason for its popularity is that it offers students a range of interesting units of study as well as theoretical and real-life experiences. During Term 2, Year 9 Commerce conducted their annual Market Day stall with the aim to teach students the process of running a small business. After learning the topic, "Running a Small Business", students began their journey of being an entrepreneur by promoting and selling a range of products. They formed groups of 4-5 and decide on a product that they wished to sell at lunchtime. The group then collaboratively works together to create a business plan, marketing strategies, advertising and other things that will make their business run as best as possible on the day. Students also managed their own business finances and were responsible for bringing all things needed on the market day. Some products that were sold on the day included, soft drinks, lollies, pizza, lamingtons, crepes, ice-cream and many other delicious foods. The learning task allowed students to learn valuable lessons on how a business runs and how they could possibly run a business of their own in the future. They also donated 10% of their profits to the charity called RUOkay.



Year 10 History

Year 10 have been learning about a variety of topics relating to Australian history. In 2022 our first topic was Making a Better World, where we explored the effects of industrialisation and urbanisation on populations as well as the movement and migration of people, the slave trade and convict transportation. We learnt of the atrocious conditions experienced by slaves and convicts and the modern-day implications of both events. We moved on to studying the causes and effects of World War One on Australia and the world. We studied the build-up of tensions in Europe before the war and the assassination of the Archduke of Austria to spark the conflict. We studied the connection between Australia and Great Britain leading to Australian involvement. We did a close study of the Gallipoli campaign and its causes, effects, and implications to the conflict and Australian identity. We are now in the process of studying World War Two, particularly the rise of totalitarianism in Europe as a result of the Great Depression.

Year 10 Military History

Military History is the subject that I most look forward to on my timetable. It is always full of exciting historical content that engages all students in the classroom and at home. In Term 1, we learnt about weapons and warfare in the Medieval era. We learnt how people survived in Medieval times, and how different their weapons and lives in general were to ours. I really enjoyed our captivating first assessment task, as we had to challenge our creativity with an historically accurate castle building task. We could build


the castle in Minecraft or in real life so it really gave us different opportunities based on what we preferred. So far in Term 2, we have been learning about the Crusades, starting with an interesting introductory assessment task, a multimedia presentation on a Crusade of our choice. The Crusades is an enthralling topic, which include the rising of tensions and the eventual series of battles between Christian and Islamic empires around the 10th century. In conclusion, Military History has been my favourite subject this year, and has been an engaging subject since the beginning, with captivating assessment tasks and fun topics overall.

Written by Harrison Day

8. "Explain the impact the Crusades had on the heritage of Europe and the Middle East."

The impact of the crusades on Europe were large, for the day to day living of the people of Europe as well as the living for the royals of the time. From their expeditions into the middle east the crusaders brought back many new things such as spices and fabrics, which meant more demand for products from Europe. The crusaders also brought back new ideas in the areas of medicine, science and religion, which went on to fuel the renaissance. In terms of the effects on the Middle East, as Europe began become more of a presence around the world during the 15th and 19th centuries, it forced the Islamic people and world into a secondary position, initiating grievances in some sectors of the formerly more progressive Middle East. Today, the Crusades still constitute a major issue for some people in the Middle East, when they consider relations with Europe.

5a. Weapons and armour used

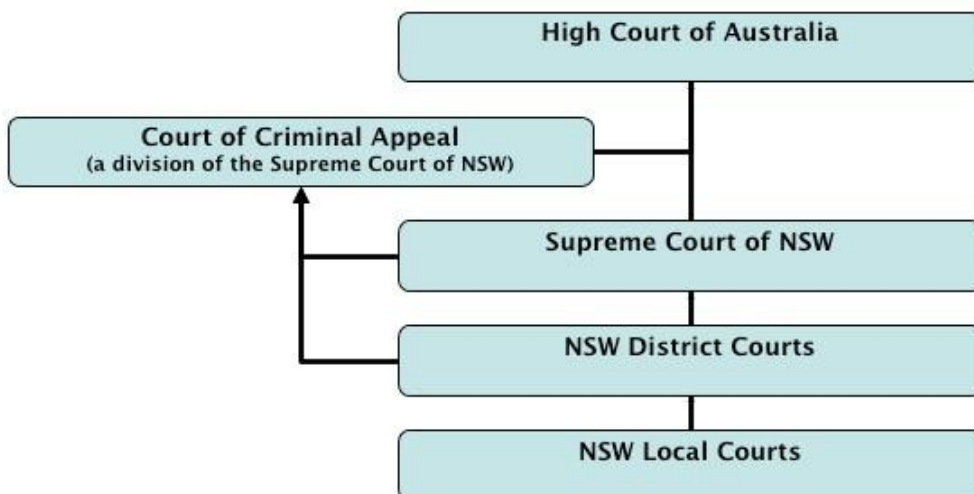


- The crusader had a mix of heavily armoured knights also light cavalry, bowmen, crossbowmen, slingers and infantry.
- Crusader infantry was armed with spears, swords, axes and maces
- The Muslim armies were made up of elite bodyguards (askars), levied from key cities such as Mosul, Aleppo and Damascus.
- The army was made up of cavalry which could include mounted archers, and infantry.
- Muslim infantry was armed with spears, crossbows or bows and protected by a circular shield.
- Muslim cavalry typically wore lamellar armour which was made of overlapping rows of small iron or hardened leather plates.

Year 10 Commerce

Our Year 10 Commerce cohort have been undertaking the Law, Society and Political Involvement unit of work. Students develop an understanding of how laws affect individuals and groups and regulate society, and how individuals and groups participate in the democratic process. Students examine various legal and political systems and learn how strategies are used to resolve contentious legal and political issues.

Some of our lessons have included delving deeply into the ideas of why our nation has laws and how it compares to other nations around the world, and the concept of morals, values and ethics. However, where students really begin to gauge a real interest is when they start understanding the Australian court hierarchy and the division of power. For example, students were given a task to research three cases that have taken place in the local, supreme and high court and really understand the issues that rise in the court and who is involved in this process.



Year 10 Commerce students were also given the opportunity to participate in Australian Business Week which was hosted by Strathfield Girls High School. Participation has become a tradition that has run between the schools for many years which provides students the opportunity to engage in collaborative discovery learning by running a hospitality simulation and making key business decisions for a hotel that they hypothetically manage. During the process the students create a company report, oral presentation, video commercial, physical trade displays.



Stage 6 Economics, Business Studies, Legal Studies, Studies of Religion & Geography

A special mention should go to the Year 12's of 2022, on behalf of the teachers of the senior subjects- Ms Budanovic, Ms Coutinho, Ms Phirum Duch Mr Innasi, Mr Kisso, Mr Morales, Ms Napoli, Ms Papavramidis and Ms Symonds.

The senior students were a pleasure to teach and their dedication to their studies is to be commended.

The HSIE Faculty runs extra-curricular activities as a form of educational enrichment across a broad range of subject areas and year groups. There were several opportunities for students to further develop their learning skills. Students from our school successfully entered into or were involved in the Australian Stock Exchange Sharemarket Game, Australian Economics Competition, Australian Business Studies Competition and the Australian Geography Competition.

The HSIE Faculty has achieved outstanding results in the academic field. The following Year 12 students deserve to be congratulated for their commitment and hard work in HSIE subjects in 2022:

Year 12 Ancient History HSC Course: Equal 1st William Knight & John Xiang and 3rd Henry Gao.

Year 12 Business Studies HSC Course: 1st John Xiang, 2nd Haydar Iqbal and 3rd Royce Wang.

Year 12 Economics HSC Course: 1st Zayan Rusab, 2nd Ashiq Iqbal and 3rd Anargyros Kallos.

Year 12 Geography HSC Course: 1st Sean McGlade, 2nd Haydar Iqbal and 3rd Won Jun Choi.

Year 12 Legal Studies HSC Course: Equal 1st Anargyros Kallos and William Knight and 3rd Daniel Park.

Year 12 Modern History HSC Course: 1st Anargyros Kallos, 2nd William Knight and 3rd Henry Wong.

Year 12 Studies of Religion HSC 2 Unit Course: 1st Saad Alam, 2nd Haydar Iqbal and 3rd Imran Abou-Zeid.

I would like to take the opportunity to specifically thank all the HSIE staff for their dedication and hard work. The success of the faculty would not have been possible and smooth sailing without their endless efforts. I also thank them for their continuous support and encouragement over the past year. Their hard work and commitment to the students is inspiring and has truly made my job so much easier. The hard work and efforts of all the HSIE staff has contributed to the great success of the faculty and impressive results achieved by the students. Also, congratulations to all the students for their enthusiasm throughout the year. I would also like to thank all parents for the support you have given to our students, teachers and the wider school community.

SRC 2022

Written by Melvin Chen (Term 4 Vice President)

Introduction

This year, the Student Representative Council has been working hard towards shaping a better future for the school. As the current Vice-President of the SRC, I can say that it has been a pleasure to work with such a committed cohort. Every member of the SRC has contributed to the school by communicating student concerns to the School Executive and partaking in volunteering, fundraising and formal school events with dedication and honour. This year, I feel that we may not have achieved all of our planned goals as the SRC due to external interruptions such as COVID. However, we still managed to pull through and during this time, we have still involved ourselves in several events in order to support other students, staff, parents, and the local community. Before I outline some of the events that the SRC has contributed to this year, I would like to express my gratitude towards the people that have supported us in our journey. We could not have gotten this far without the help of Mr Morales, the SRC coordinator, who has dedicated a lot of his time and effort into supporting the SRC and making sure that we get things done on time. I would also like to thank the former SRC leaders: Aryan, Venkat and the other year 11 and year 12's who have shown the rest of us what it means to be a leader and what the SRC can do to help the school community. Below is an overview of some of the events that the SRC has been involved with in the hectic, yet memorable and special year of 2022.

Year 7 Open Night

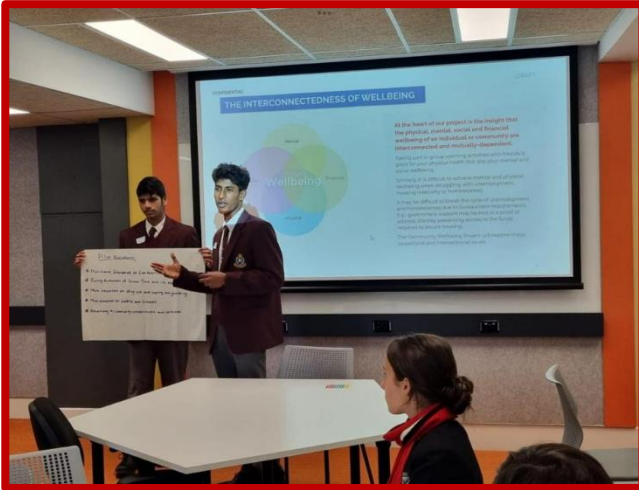
In Term 1, Homebush Boys High School hosted an Open Night for families of Year 7.

2023 students and members of the SRC were keen to help assist with the event. On Open Night, families of future Year 7's were introduced to the welcoming staff, experienced engaging faculty workshops and had the opportunity to tour around the school. In the end, it was a big success and we left with the rewarding feeling that we helped make a great impression of our school to future students and their parents.



Youth Advisory Board

In Term 2, the President (Aryan Rodrigues) and Vice-President (Venkat Mallemala) were invited to the inaugural Youth Advisory Board Meeting with Strathfield MP Jason Yat-sen Li. Aryan and Venkat collaborated with student leaders from other schools around Strathfield to discuss issues affecting youth and planned for possible solutions. It was a very productive first and was a huge step in the right direction for the SRC to strengthen connections with the local community and other schools.



International Women's Day Conference

On the 8th of March, the senior members of the SRC attended an International Women's Day Conference with the aim of raising awareness about gender inequality, discrimination and bias held against women. The senior SRC of HBHS worked together with Strathfield Council, SRC members from Strathfield Girls High School, and other members of the Strathfield community. The International Women's Day conference was a great experience and we can only hope that more events like these take place in the future to inform us about the problems in the world and what we can do to resolve these issues.



Red Cross Initiative

During the bitterly cold August of 2022, we teamed up with Red Cross Shops to promote a clothing donation drive for those in need of winter clothing. This initiative brought the school community together as parents, caregivers, teachers and students alike donated quality clothing and accessories. Donated items were sold in Red Cross Shops and the proceeds helped fund the humanitarian work of the Red Cross in Australia. The SRC thanks everyone who supported the cause and we are looking forward to bringing forth more of these initiatives in the future!



"R U OK?" Day



Mr Kisso, a group of generous Year 8 students and the SRC organised a special assembly and BBQ on RUOK Day to highlight the significance and importance of asking someone, "Are you okay?" RUOK Day is about reminding ourselves that we should always look out for people who are struggling with life and start a meaningful conversation with them to make them feel better. RUOK Day was a great and fun initiative for us to organise

since, apart from letting us host a fantastic barbeque, it also helped us raise awareness of important issues like anxiety, depression, and suicide in our society.



Meetings with the School Executive

Every second Monday, members of the SRC come together with the school executive team to discuss problems, proposals, and updates on the school. In my opinion, these meetings are integral to what we stand for, as representatives of the school, since they allow us to become the bridge between staff and students, communicating ideas to both ends from one another. This year, a recurring theme in these meetings were about the new and upcoming school library. It was very exciting for us to gain insight on the new library through these meetings and even contribute to its design!



Other Events

Other events we've contributed to this year include: sausage sizzle fundraisers, Orientation Days, Parent-Teacher Interviews, the 2022 and 2023 Prefect Ceremony. Being part of the SRC was a blast this year and we're all looking forward to finishing 2022 on a high note with a Milk-Tea Fundraiser Day!

SPORT REPORT

We have had a massive year on the sporting field despite disruptions due to COVID and pouring rains. Some notable achievements this year include a number of students representing Homebush Boys and the Sydney North Region at NSW Combined High Schools Carnivals. Rivaan Kapadia placed 7th in the 12-14 years 400m freestyle at the NSWCHS Swimming Carnival; Youssef Abdul-Rahman placed 7th in the state in 12 years shotput, Muhammad Abu Mahmoud placed 7th in the state in 16 years 110m hurdles, James Knight placed 11th in the state in 16 years shotput, and Adnan Darwiche placed 13th in the state in 12-15 years multi class shotput – all at the NSWCHS Athletics Carnival.

Our school weights room has undergone a transformation this year to make it a more usable space for senior students. Bunnings Lidcombe and Ashfield very generously donated the new rubber gym tiles. We hosted a series of fundraising barbeques at Bunnings Lidcombe and at school to be able to buy some new equipment. A huge thank you to William Knight, Sean McGlade, Jackson Campton, Anoop Gholap, Dane Perrottet, Mr Elaro, Ms Carrasco, Ms Yu and Mr Michael for working on the Bunnings barbeque; to the Interact Club, Prefects, SRC, Mr Kisso, Ms DiBiasi, Ms Anton, Ms Gullifa, Ms Houvardas, Mr Michael, Mr Burke and Ms Player for working on the school barbeques; to Mr Michael, Ms Gullifa and Mr Burke for cleaning and painting the weights room during the holidays. We have been able to purchase a spin bike and air rower and Newtown Gym also generously donated two squat racks to us, thank you to Mr Alexander for arranging this. This has been a huge effort from a number of people across the school and I am extremely grateful for the assistance. We look forward to welcoming more senior students to the Homebush Lifting Club in 2023.

Our sportsmen were recognised for their achievements throughout the year at the annual Presentation Assembly. Forty-four students were awarded for their work captaining teams, for showing good sportsmanship, and for their achievements as age and house champions. Congratulations to our joint Junior Sportsmen of the Year, Rivaan Kapadia and Adnan Darwiche, and to our Senior Sportsman of the Year, Muhammad Abu Mahmoud.

It has been a great honour to support the students at Homebush Boys in their sporting endeavours and to share in their successes over the past two years. Wishing you all the very best into the future.



LITERACY

Mr Martyn Bawden
Strategic Planning Advisor



The end of another year may be a good time to reflect on your son's confidence in his literacy and numeracy skills! There are so many ways, these days, that we get feedback about these, and chances to correct weaknesses.

Year 7, 8 & 9 students

I mentioned in the last newsletter that all Year 7, 8 & 9 students would this Term be participating in **reading and numeracy Check-in online assessments**, and these have now concluded. These assessments do not provide parent reports, but they are a valuable source of information for the school, and results are now available to parents who request them.

Please just send me an email, via the school email address, if you would like an updated reading or numeracy report on your son.

Year 8 students

This is a reminder, too, for Year 8 students and parents, that **NAPLAN online tests** will be held next Term from 15th to 27th March – much earlier in the year than normal.

All Year 8 students have been practising reading, numeracy and language exercises on Google Classroom for the past two Terms. These are still all available, and now is a good time to revise them.

Year 10 & 11 students

As always, I remind parents that achievement of **Minimum Standards in reading, writing and numeracy** remains a requirement for the award of the Higher School Certificate. For students in Years 10 and 11 who still need to achieve one or more Minimum Standards, most testing has now finished for the year. Further opportunities will be available in Term 1, next year.

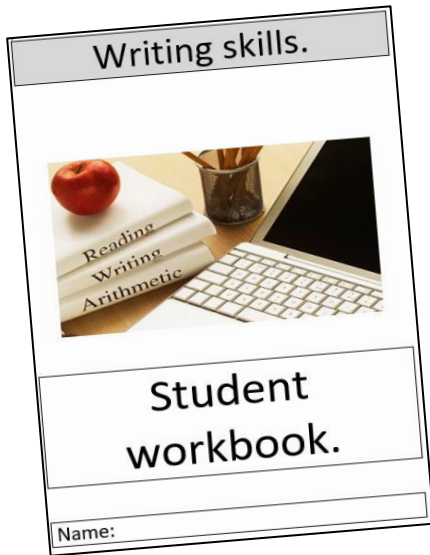
Parents are invited to contact me if they have queries about their sons' Minimum Standards status or support needs.

Writing support

I make special mention of *writing* in this edition.

Of all the literacy and numeracy skill-areas, writing presents the greatest challenge to the greatest number of students. So, through the *whole-school writing strategy*, as well as through NAPLAN results, writing skills are carefully monitored.

From this data, a number of students are selected for extra writing support, which includes the chance to take part in small-group workshops. Here, the *rules of writing* are practised, along with *brainstorming of ideas*.



My bad day.

The time I had a bad day was 3 months ago. The bad things that happened were that I broke my phone, I got a really hard assignment that was due in two days, and also the internet was off.

On that day, I was walking down the stairs when my phone dropped out of my pocket. I quickly ran down the stairs to see if it was cracked. The whole phone was covered in cracks, and it didn't turn on. I knew my phone had broken.

I was very angry, so I went on my laptop to look for a new phone to buy. I opened up my laptop and saw that I had an email from my PDHPE teacher about an assignment that was due in two days' time. I didn't want to start it then because I was extremely angry.

I went to go to play X-box so that I could take my mind off the bad things, when suddenly I heard a lightning strike, very loud. I ignored it and turned on the X-box. I saw a notification saying that there was no internet connection. I knew it was because of the rain. It was so heavy, so I couldn't even play outside.

On that day, I went to bed hoping I would never have a day like that again.

Sulaiman Khan

The school's aim is to develop students' confidence and skills in extended writing – something which will stand them in good stead for the rest of their lives.

Parents, if you have any queries or concerns, please contact Mr Bawden (Literacy/numeracy Support Person) via the school phone or email address. Above all, please support any offers made, by the school, to give your son additional support in his literacy or numeracy skills.

Your considerable efforts to encourage your sons have been enormously valued throughout this year.

May you and your families enjoy a relaxing and safe summer holiday!

LEARNING SUPPORT

Ms Lisa Brien
Relieving Head Teacher

Mini Orientation Day

On Monday 14th of November, several year 6 students enrolled to come to Homebush Boys High School as Year 7's in 2023 were invited to attend the Mini Orientation Day. With the assistance from our student leaders/prefects the students had a great time. They were welcomed in the school library and had staff introduce themselves, a music taster lesson followed by a guided tour of the school.

Written by Hatty Sencan



MATHEMATICS

Mr Christos Halkidis
Head Teacher

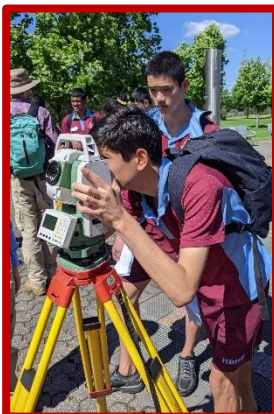
Maths in Surveying Excursion

On Friday, 28 October 2022, 13 students from Year 10, accompanied by Mr Jesu from the Mathematics faculty, attended the 'Maths in Surveying' excursion. The excursion was organised by the Association of Consulting Surveyors NSW Inc. and was located at Bicentennial Park within Sydney Olympic Park.

Students assembled near the Registration desk at around 9:00 a.m. for a 9:20 a.m. start. The day was broken into a series of activities, which according to a Surveyor who designed one of the activities, was "all about generating that spark of interest that may motivate one of the students towards a scientific career, or at least a better understanding of how science and mathematics affect everyday life".

In the first activity, Students attended a presentation about the history of Surveying. In the second activity, Surveyors demonstrated how Ground Penetrating Radar equipment is used to map the subsurface of the earth. In the third activity, students used a Theodolite, a device used to measure horizontal and vertical angles, to measure the zenith angles to the mast on top, and to the base of Treillage Tower and calculated its height using trigonometry. In the fourth activity, students visited three different locations within the park to measure the bearings of a flashing beacon, which was meant to symbolise a bushfire, and used the sine rule to measure the distance to the hypothetical bushfire from Treillage Tower. The day culminated with students participating in two more activities, all involving applications of trigonometry wherein students calculated how far a ball was thrown, and also calculated the radius and circumference of the Earth, using only their knowledge of bearings and trigonometry!

Overall, students found the day interesting and fun. Most of them were surprised that their knowledge of trigonometry could help solve real-world problems. Some of them described the excursion as a "fun day at the park". The day's activities ended at around 1:45 p.m. and students made their way home.



World of Maths

Year 7 participated in the World of Maths roadshow on December 2. World of Maths is all about making sure learning is fun through real-life examples, by understanding instructions and applying problem-solving skills. The hands-on activities attempt to encourage participation, boost confidence and spark a love of learning.



Australian Mathematics Competition Awards

The Australian Mathematics Competition is an internationally recognised competition that has been held annually since 1978. It is one of the largest of its type in the world. More than 40 countries participate each year. There is an emphasis on problem solving, a valuable life skill, and the questions are designed to be fun for the student.

The following students received their certificates of distinction at a recent assembly:

- ❖ Year 8: Adam Hamad, Arush Chauhan, Harshavardhan Mahendran, Winston Cao
- ❖ Year 9: William Luong
- ❖ Year 10: Linzi Lin, Melvin Chen, Brandan Thai, Liam Ta, Nikhil Gaddam
- ❖ Equal first in school: Liam Ta and Nikhil Gaddam



Mathematics Puzzle

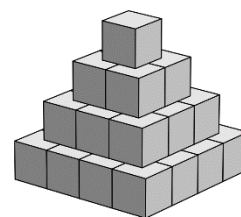
Mathematics is important because it strengthens our ability to think rationally. Numeracy equips us with the senses of quantity, calculation, estimation, space, statistics, and probability. We all use these senses every day to interact with the world around us.

One way to build numeracy is to attempt difficult problems. Allowing time to think deeply about a solution develops our numerical senses. Deep thought creates and strengthens connections within the brain, which improves cognitive function and mental health—so maths is good for you!

Try to strengthen your brain by attempting the following question! (The solution will be in the next edition of the Bush Bulletin.)

The diagram shows a pyramid made up of 30 cubes, each measuring $1\text{ m} \times 1\text{ m} \times 1\text{ m}$.

What is the total surface area of the whole pyramid (including its base)?



(The answer to the question in the last Bush Bulletin is below.)

The missing digits were 1 and 4. The digits are arranged in groups of two-digit numbers, all ending in 7 and ascending in both rows.

SCIENCE

Mr Iqbal Singh
Head Teacher

At the outset I would like to thank Maria Catalano, Chris Burke, Khalid Pathan, Shashi Shashi, Kusum Anand, Jennii Lee, Suthangan Thanabalsingam, David Johnston, Annette Di Val and Henny Gower for their wonderful support to the Science Faculty this year. The year, 2022, has been exceptionally busy after resuming face to face teaching and learning. No doubt, this was a welcoming start as students have been able to gain the missed experiences of hands-on activities and practicals that are an integral part of our teaching and learning curriculum.

In 2022, the Science faculty has been able to provide students with the practical investigation opportunities not only during the teaching lessons but also organise the mandatory assessments for year 11 and year 12 classes. This has enabled students to gain the much-needed experience of learning the skills of Working Scientifically.

Staff: Ms Helen Lu worked at HBHS for one year who moved to North Sydney Boys High School. I am quite confident that she has enjoyed her stay at HBHS. We wish her success at North Sydney Boys High School. Ms Shashi Shashi stepped into a one-year contract to replace Ms Helen Lu. She has adjusted well to the wonderful HBHS environment. Her contribution to the Science faculty and to the school is highly appreciated. S Shashi has been a great team player. On behalf of science faculty and on my own behalf, I wish Shashi Shashi best of luck for her future.

I am confident that the HSC students have benefitted from the hard work that has been put in by Mr David Johnston, Ms Maria Catalano, Mr Khalid Pathan, Mr Chris Burke, Mrs Kusum Anand, and Mr Suthangan Thanabalasingam in preparing them for their HSC this year. Teachers have gone above and beyond in providing the student with the much-needed support during the class and outside the class hours. I am quite sure, students will appreciate this. We, in the science faculty wish the outgoing HSC students all the best for their bright futures.

Thank you to Ms Annette Di Val for her continued support in organising the practical work for the teachers in Science during 2022, in providing a great learning experience for the students at Homebush Boys High School. Mrs Henny Gower, lab assistant has reduced her working days to one day a week and I thank her for her continued work for the faculty.

I would like to highlight some of the achievements of our staff and students in 2022.

VALID Year 8 Science Competition

All the year 8 students completed the compulsory VALID Year 8 Science competition in 2022. Thank you to K Anand for her organisation.

Year 7 Zoo Excursion

A highly successful excursion organised by J Lee in collaboration with all year 7 teachers and A Di Val.

Raci International Chemistry Quiz (ICQ) 2022

The ICQ is an international competition including 20 other countries as well as Australia. It consists of 30 multiple choice questions to be answered in 60 min. It aims to promote interest in chemistry and the role of chemists in our society.

Certificates are awarded based on the ranking:

⇒ 80-90%=Distinction – 4 students

- ⇒ 70-80%=Credit – 2 students
- ⇒ Under 70%= Certificate of Participation – 42 students

Congratulations to the following students:

Year 11

- ❖ Sehand Alidosti [Credit]

Year 12

- ❖ Huy Khang Pham [Distinction]
- ❖ Abdullah Syed [Distinction]
- ❖ Henry Wong [Distinction]
- ❖ Hao Pan [Distinction]
- ❖ Ashiq Iqbal [Credit]
- ❖ Diluxan Ramanan [Credit]

NSW Schools Titration Competition - 2022

Titration competition is a state level competition based on a practical activity in the discipline of Chemistry held every year. Thank you to M Catalano for her efforts in preparing and encouraging the students to participate in the competition.

HBHS achieved a State Rank 39 out of 139 schools. Received Excellence for Team Award – 2022

National Science Week - Paper Plane competition -Year 7 students.

Thank you, S Shashi, for her initiative and effort in the organisation of this event. Thank you, C Elaro, for being the judge for the competition and all the members of the Science faculty for their tremendous support in the running of the National Science Week competition.





What HBHS school captain has to say about Science Faculty



Written by
Venkatvidipreddy Mallema

School Captain

For a student like myself who has a strong enthusiasm and love for STEM, Homebush Boys High School's Science faculty, led by the wonderful Head Teacher Mr. Singh, can be regarded as one of the best faculties the school has to offer. The faculty consists of qualified, inspiring, and kind teachers that continuously teach their specialised courses with love and passion to improve students' learning capacities. My interest and affection for the sciences have only grown since I've been a student at Homebush Boys, and I've always considered them to be one of my favourite subjects. The science department also provides students with a wide choice of specialisations, such as Earth and Environmental Science, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and Extension Science. The excellence of this faculty is clearly highlighted through the various awards students receive from multiple science-related competitions, such as the Titration Competition, and the high number of Band 6s received for different sciences each year. I highly recommend all students to continue to pursue at least one science in their senior years to experience the wonderful environment.

2022 NSW Schools Titration Competition

Written by Abdullah Syed

The amazing experience started as soon as the University of Sydney was in sight. The old Victorian styled buildings towering over us made us feel as if we were in Hogwarts. After a few group photos in front of the Great Hall, it was time. Time to compete in a competition we spent weeks preparing for. All the staying back after school and the frustration of putting one too many drops of the titrant in was for this moment. But we kept reminding ourselves, have some fun! And we really did. The wave of excitement of being summoned into the labs, walking through the School of Chemistry, imagining we to be present here next year. They were quite unique and different to the labs at school, and made for a rather exciting environment to work in. The casual banter contrasted the stressful time limit well and made for a heightened sense of excitement. Although we couldn't make it onto the next stages, it was something I would look forward to if given another chance. I Highly recommend this competition for future Year 12 Chemistry students and wish them the best of luck!



Dr Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute Award

Each year, Dr Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute gives award to the TWO top students in year 11 for their outstanding achievement in science courses in year 11. This a great honour for the students who receive this award. The recipients of the award for 2022 are:

1. Piraveen Sivachandran
2. Sanila Vithanage

Congratulations!

Celebrating the Hard Work – End of year lunch with guest, Dr Balan



Egg Drop Challenge activity for Year 8 students – S Thanabalasingam



SPECIAL EDUCATION

Mr Sam Widmer

Head Teacher

It has been a superb end to the school year. The boys in the Support Unit showed their brilliance and maturity in all subject areas. They participated actively in engaging activities, learned new skills and concepts as well as activated their creativity in a range of lessons. The boys learned about solar energy and bioenergy, performed piano compositions, cooked delicious snacks/meals, created a door bell and made interesting clay monsters. They also extended their knowledge on money and measurement as well as compared their knowledge of their class novel 'Wonder' to its movie.



Bush Bulletin

Tennis this term at Strathfield Sports Club has been an absolute success. The boys have improved their tennis skills tremendously. They improved their ability to serve and return a ball in a number of engaging games. The Support Unit would like to thank the instructors, Aimy and Dom, for doing such a great job teaching the boys. They always delivered lessons that were fun and impactful.



This term, we got to know some of the students from Chalmers Road School by visiting their school. Our students engaged in fun activities such as singing, walking and playing outdoor games. Our boys came to Chalmers Road with their friendly and respectful manners and represented Homebush Boys in a positive light. The students from Chalmers Road also visited our school. They orientated themselves in the school by completing a scavenger hunt and participating in an entertaining Kahoot about Homebush Boys High School. The boys also partook in a couple of Science lessons too! They created a lava lamp, a ghost glove and even Elephant Toothpaste.



Bush Bulletin

The teachers and students would like to congratulate Jackson (Year 7) and Ekrem (Year 8) from the Support Unit. They were voted in to be representatives in 2023's SRC. We know that these boys, with their optimistic attitudes, are going to contribute positively to the school next year.



During Presentation Day this week, the students in the Support Unit were presented awards in a variety of categories. These awards were well deserved because they worked diligently this term. The teachers and SLSOs are proud of the boys and all that they have accomplished this year. We look forward to seeing their smiling faces and academic growth next year, in 2023.



TEACHING & LEARNING

Ms Leila Achmad
Head Teacher

The young men at Homebush Boys High School have completed another outstanding year in the Literacy course in 2022. By the end of Term 4, all students completed their final Star Reader assessment to demonstrate their reading growth throughout the year. Our school Accelerated Reader program has shown us that our students have read more than 1700 books, equating to more than 51 million words!

At Presentation Day, our faculty introduced two new categories of Special Awards: The 2022 Frederick Douglass Award and the Reading Encouragement Award. Frederick Douglass was born in 1818 and was a slave in the United States of America. He once said that “knowledge makes a man unfit to be a slave” and “once you learn to read, you will be forever free.” After learning to read and write, Douglass escaped slavery and became a leader in the abolitionist movement, an orator, writer, and statesman. The young men who received awards in this category showed an ongoing commitment to reading through their dedication in Literacy classes, their consistent borrowing of books in the school library and the school reading program.

The 2022 Frederick Douglass Award recipients are:

Year 7



Harien Thirivalagan

Year 8



Ken Shimooka

Year 9



Mohamed Tarshan

The 2022 Reading Encouragement Award recipients are:

Year 7



Schivan Eswaran



Zubin Labbayk



Seyon Sayanthan

Year 8



Harshavardhan Mahendran



Inayatullah Syed



Kian Cai

Year 9



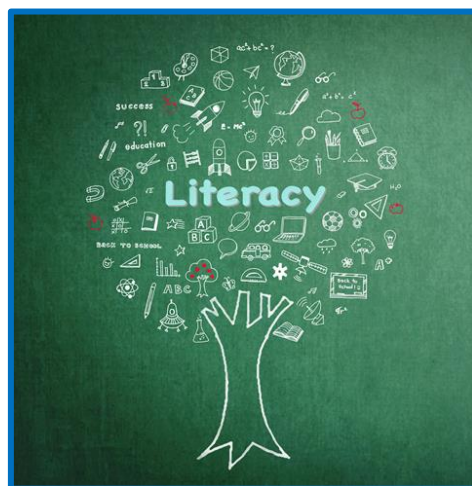
Nathan Yang



Anthony Sumadiredja

Goran Cheng

I would also like to thank the Literacy staff for their dedication and hard work throughout the year. I would like to extend my thanks to Mr Steven Casey, who has moved on to a teaching position at another school, and Ms Catherine Lea who moved on to the role of teaching English at Homebush Boys High School earlier in the year. Thank you to Ms Misbah Khan and Mr Cheiban Elaro for their commitment and support throughout the year. We welcomed Ms Jessica Jang and Ms Melissa Gullifa into our Literacy faculty in Term 3 and Term 4 respectively and look forward to their continued dedication and success in the Literacy course in 2023.



TECHNOLOGICAL AND APPLIED SCIENCE

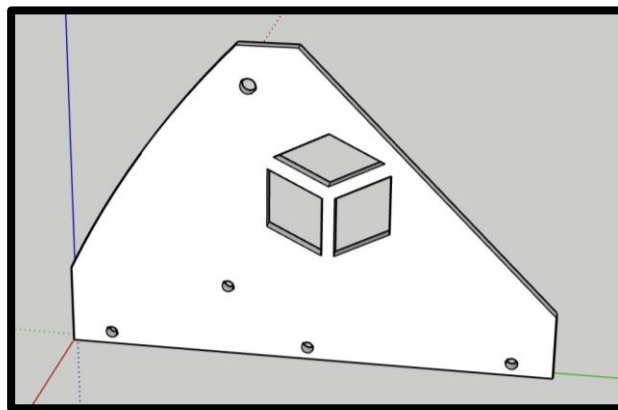
Mr Abderrahim Abbou
Head Teacher [Acting]

My Experience in Industrial Technology Metal

By Andy Xiao (Year 10)

Industrial Technology Metal was a subject that I didn't get the chance of doing in year 7 or 8 so I picked it as my electives and I have enjoyed and learnt skills throughout year 9 and 10. My class went through the WHS booklet, used OnGuard and Sketchup during our theory lessons. In year 9, we made a toolbox and scribe and in year 10 we made a cannon. Throughout year 9 and 10, the machines we used the sheet metal guillotine, magnabend, drill press, lathes and the cold saw. Tools we used includes scribe, ruler, saw, coping saw, try square, permanent marker, centre punch, hammer and wood mallet. Overall, Industrial Technology Metal has been a great subject and learning experience.

The cannon has four main parts and two sets of spacers. The main parts include the two side pieces, one bottom plate, two wheels and the cannon barrel. The side pieces were 120mm by 80mm by 4mm. The bottom plate was 185mm by 40mm by 9mm. The wheels were diameter 62mm by roughly 10mm. The wheel spacers were diameter 10mm with a diameter 4mm hole though it and 5mm wide. The spacers for the wheels were roughly the same but had a curve on one side that fitted the side of the barrel. We stamped our initials into the bottom of the bottom plate using the metal stamps.



Side piece of cannon (drawing on sketchup)

Woodtech

By Hayden Cox (Year 8)

This semester, 8A2 had a very exciting semester of creating our very own kitchen Spice Rack. The Rack has 3 shelves and is capable of storing 15 to 20 spice containers. Adding on, the wood is completely waterproof. and it contains a custom artwork on the headboard that we created ourselves. The best parts of the build consisted of us being able to use the cool machinery and tools, however, we only did this with the persistent attention of our woodwork teacher, Mr. Hryce, and after completing specific training courses which were different online scenarios about safety in the workshop. They involved learning about how some specific machines worked and how to use them responsibly without getting injured. The best part of all is we get to take it home to our parents and show them what we made and hang them in our kitchens. My overall experience was that it was a fun and a very exciting course to complete with my classmates.

Information Software Technology

By Christopher Khim (Year 10)

In term 4 of 2022, my IST class commenced our final topic for the year, game development and drones. Game development was a refresher from last year, however, operating drones was a new experience for me and my class. With G-Develop and GameMaker, we developed our very own 2D games as a way to showcase our creativity and inspiration. Platformer, shooter, and survival games were some of the games we created during this time, just to name a few. Revisiting game development was memorable as we were given the opportunity to recreate our own games and develop better, more entertaining games due to our better understanding of game development and the game engine. Shortly afterwards, our game development came to a stop and drones became the focal point of the year. In groups of two or three, a CoDrone Pro was designated between us where we were able to collaborate together to program and control our drone. A rechargeable battery, a landing pad, a buildable remote, and the CoDrone Pro itself were packaged in a small box. Upon opening the box, our group cooperated together to assemble the remote. Blockly, Python, and Arduino were utilised to hover, rotate, and drive our mini drone. The implementation of commands such as hover for a few seconds, fly in a specific pattern, make an emergency landing, and receive data were exciting. It engaged my group to create many challenges and obstacles that would test our abilities and understanding on drones. As someone who enjoys learning from IST, I believe that both topics were engaging and inspiring as ever and I would recommend it to the younger years who enjoy the computing and technical aspects of IT.





YEAR ADVISOR REPORT

Ms Christy Cheung

Year 7



Firstly, I would like to thank the 12 Year 7 students who volunteered to give their thoughts on their first year of high school and who I will refer to in this last Bush Bulletin.

Year 7's first year of high school is finally done and dusted. Emran summed it up perfectly, "Year 7 was a roller coaster of feelings, experiences, and memories." For many, transiting to high school from primary school was a nerve-racking experience. Some were coming from a school with a much smaller and likely much shorter population to a bigger school with lots of even bigger students. As Dhilan said, it must have made them feel like they were in kindergarten again.



Some came with friends, and some were the only ones coming from their primary school, which would make it even more anxiety-inducing. The first few weeks were mostly spent getting lost in the maze-like school! The dizzying combo of new classes, new teachers, new subjects and new peers hit them all at once as they opened this new chapter in their lives. It was a stressful experience, but they rolled with the punches and quickly got used to their surroundings.

Soon came the Swimming Carnival and Athletics Carnival. Competing in the large Olympic Park venues and for the first time in high school must have been daunting to many. But luckily for Muhammad, his friends were there to encourage him and boost his confidence, so much so that he came first place in 3 races! Of course, let's not forget the weekly grade sport matches, where Year 7s were able to represent our school and display their sporting powers against other schools.



Multicultural Day showcased to Year 7s the cultures of the students at our school with lots of dancing and food. Donut Day and Hotdog Day were a special mention. Year 7s seems to love their food! Then, there was the Taronga Zoo excursion, paper airplane contest and various academic competitions, which Janusan and Virushen remembered

fondly. We also had regular year assemblies, where important information was given and the recipients of Blue and Maroon, Silver and Year Adviser awards were celebrated.

However, the best thing in the year for Arjan was the Year 7 camp. For some, like Devakinand, it was the first camp they participated in. Gibson loved that he got to get away from home for once. The three days at Katoomba were highly appreciated and a welcomed break from school. Thank you again to the Year 10 Peer Support leaders and the teachers who made the camp so awesome for the Year 7s.



In Aydin's words, let me represent Year 7 in saying to the teachers: "Thank you to all my teachers that have helped me through this year." Timothy appreciated the care teachers showed towards their education. Special mention to Ms. Karas for maintaining our library as Michael says you are intimidating enough to ensure that he always returns his books on time.

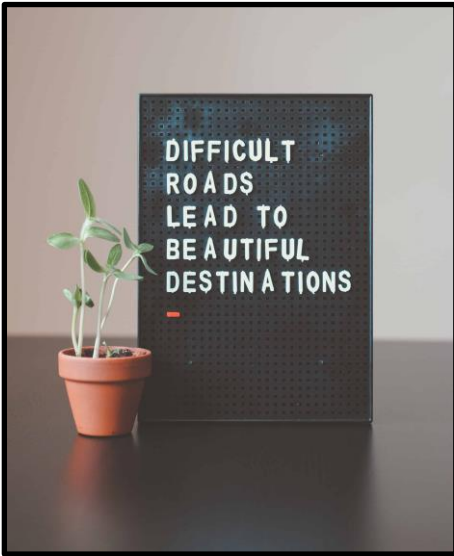
A piece of wisdom from Ajman to finish off "Failures do not define you, they teach you". I hope Year 7s learn from this year, see what you want to improve on, and come back next year motivated and ready to learn and do your best. We look forward to seeing our soon-to-be Year 8s happy and healthy back at school next year, but until then, enjoy your holidays, merry Christmas and happy New Year.



YEAR ADVISOR REPORT

Mr Elie Kisso

Year 8



The final edition of the bush bulletin is here. I honestly have to say this has been one busy year for the cohort. Our students have engaged in a range of never-ending activities that demonstrate their commitment to learning and active citizenship at Homebush Boys High School.

I am proud to be the Year Adviser of such an enthusiastic and willing group of students who demonstrate leadership and a continual sense of pride when wearing the Homebush Boys High School badge.

I look forward to seeing all our Year 8 students graduate to the next step of their schooling life in Year 9! While a lot of challenges will be faced, it is an exciting time as all students will engage in their elective subjects of choice for the very first time. Remember the message that was spoken about at presentation day - Never stop giving it your best shot because you will never succeed without leaving any page unturned.

Year 8 Support Unit Commerce taster lesson

During Term 4 - I had the privilege of teaching the Year 8 support unit and introducing them to the wonderful world of Commerce. The students participated in a lesson based on consumers, customers and the choices they make.

Students had the opportunity to decide on making purchases of different products and what factors they consider when purchasing goods.

The boys then interacted with an activity that allowed them to blind taste test two types of chips and two types of soft drinks. They then had to write defining features of the products and blindly guess which was the correct item. This was a hit, and the excitement was through the roof as the students couldn't wait any longer for the final brand reveal. Below are some photos of the lesson.



YEAR ADVISOR REPORT

Miss Misbah Khan

Year 9



2022 was the year that marked the midpoint of the Year 9 cohort's high school experience and the first year that our Year 9 cohort were not interrupted with COVID lockdowns and online learning. Therefore, it has been so wonderful to see our students thrive in their school environment and to see all the incredible things that students have been doing around the school.



This year, Year 9 have triumphed not only in their academic pursuits, but in the sporting field, during creative and performing arts exhibitions and performances, and through many other areas where they have been able to demonstrate their talents and leadership skills. Some students entered national competitions, absorbed themselves in enrichment activities and participated in Premier's challenges, whereas others were involved in extracurricular clubs and programs both within and outside of the school or represented our school at zone and regional sporting competitions.



I wish all of Year 9 the most superb and relaxing holiday and I encourage them to take the time out to do the things they enjoy most over this holiday period. The new year will bring about many new opportunities, so I encourage them all to take full advantage of them, so that they may continue to flourish.



YEAR ADVISOR REPORT

Miss Michelle Coutinho

Year 10



It has been a great end to 2022. I will end the year by saying that I feel so proud to be the Year Advisor to such a great Year 10 cohort. This year has been one filled with accomplishments, challenges, and growth. As all students finish the year and begin their senior studies next year, I hope that each student will believe in themselves and just try their best at all times. It is an exciting journey ahead as you reach your final two years of high school.

Wishing all students, families and staff a happy holiday season. I hope that everyone has a wonderful break and that 2023 is even bigger and better.

Money Talks Presentation

Year 10 had their second presentation from Talk Money. The presentation was about getting a job and making money and focused on the students' online profile, how to read a payslip, superannuation and tax.



Over the Term 4 period, the Year 10 cohort had the chance to be enlightened by the money talks program. This experience was splendid as it allowed for the students within the cohort to learn essential skills in relation to the many different aspects of earning money. The first presentation gave a special insight into the different types of businesses and careers, including the more relevant information to us as teenagers, casual and part-time jobs. The next presentation was looking both at the current for many and also peering into the future. With it starting with the presenter talking about reading payslips and the dangers of an incorrect payslip, and then later explaining the need for superannuation and some commonly made mistakes that cause many people to lose large amounts of money in relation to the superannuation fees. Overall it was an interesting presentation that will no doubt be useful for all students, for the current time and the foreseeable future.



Australian Business Week

Here is a snapshot below of some of the images from Australian Business Week held at Strathfield Girls High School. Melvin Chen of Year 10 has also written an article about his experience over the 6 days.

Bush Bulletin



Australian Business Week (ABW) is an intensive, but fun-filled, one-week program during which students undertake a series of activities in relation to running their own hotel enterprise. A group of 50 Year-Ten students were chosen to participate in this engaging event during week 8 of Term Four and worked together with the Year-Ten Strathfield Girls cohort. There were a total of 25 different groups, all of which vied to become the most successful hotel business by completing various tasks as part of the simulation (e.g. oral presentation, trade display, company report, video commercial and computer simulation).

ABW offered a very exciting and unique experience to all participants, allowing us to develop our social and communication skills whilst also educating us on the processes and intricacies involved with running a successful business. In order to succeed, group members needed to: cooperate and have trust with one another, effectively manage the usage of their working time, and, lastly, have fun! (a group who feels miserable about the workload and cannot work together will probably not win...)

Overall, I found that ABW was an invaluable experience which was both very insightful and engaging. Ranging from learning about how businesses operate, to meeting and socialising with new people, and being filled with the anticipation of receiving our business results at the end of each day, I thoroughly enjoyed Australian Business Week and the experiences that came with it.



YEAR ADVISOR REPORT

Ms Rashmi Singh

Year 11



Written by Manjeet Kaur (Assistant Year Advisor)

Year 11, we have had an exciting journey this year. You have entered the first year of stage 6 and have selected our school leaders. I would like to congratulate all the students who received awards. You should be very proud of your efforts. To the rest of year 11, congratulations on making it this far. I must say that Ms Singh and I feel very proud to be your year advisers.

Gentlemen, you are now charting a critical territory in your life – 2023 is going to a big year, HSC year for you.

I would like to give you a very simple advice – Give it your best shot.

I am reminded of a quote by a popular author – JK Rowling.

*“ We do not need magic to change the world.
We carry all the powers inside ourselves already.
We all have the power to imagine better and to do better.”*

The following year 11 students have been recognised for their academic achievements in 2022:

- ❖ First in Construction
Jad ABDUL-RAHMAN
- ❖ First in Mathematics Numeracy
Adam AKRAM
- ❖ First in Legal Studies
Salah Al-Din AMMAR
- ❖ First in English Standard
Ibrahim AYSHAN
- ❖ First in Industrial Technology Timber
Khaled CHAHAL
- ❖ First in Ancient History
Kelvin CHEN
- ❖ First in Chinese & Literature
Daniel CHENG
- ❖ First in English Studies
Omer DEMIRYUREK
- ❖ First in English Extension 1
Aman JIFRY
- ❖ First in Visual Arts
Keon LEE
- ❖ Equal First in Chinese in Context
Yuhang LI
- ❖ First in Korean Continuers
Hayder MANGOL
- ❖ First in Music 1
Minh PHAM
- ❖ First in Mathematics Advanced
Aryan RODRIGUES
- ❖ First in Geography
William SU
- ❖ First in Information Processes Technology
William WU
- ❖ First in Korean Beginners
Chenjun YAN
- ❖ Equal First in Chinese in Context
Aaron ZHANG

- ❖ First in Engineering
Hamlin ZHANG
- ❖ First in Software Design & Development | First in Modern History
Junah SONG
- ❖ First in English Advanced | Equal First in Chemistry
Sanila VITHANAGE
- ❖ First in Studies of Religion | First in Biology | First in PDHPE
Ayman CHAABOU
- ❖ First in Hospitality | First in Community & Family Studies | First in Mathematics Standard
Zane HAMAD
- ❖ First in English as an Additional Language or Dialect | Equal First in Chemistry | First in Sport Lifestyle & Recreation | First in Mathematics Extension 1
Piraveen SIVACHCHANDRAN
- ❖ First in Business | First in Economics | First in Physics | First in Year 11
Venkatvidipreddy MALLEMAL



STUDENT SUPPORT OFFICER REPORT

Ms Lauren Di Biasi

What a Term 4! What a year! 2022 has had some incredible moments I don't even know where to start. First ever camp for this Student Support Officer right here and I think I was just as excited as the Year 7 students, if not more. A big thank you to the year 10 mentors who were an absolute delight to have on the camp as well. I was very grateful to witness so many students step out of their comfort zone and try something they initially said there was no way they'd do.



I would also like to say a massive thank you to Matt and Peter from Hillsong City Care as well as the student volunteers, for supporting Pancakes on a Wednesday morning. It's a fabulous way to start to our morning grabbing the BBQ and providing pancakes, before students head off to class and sport. I would suggest the toppings and pancakes have something to do with the excellent sporting performances on a Wednesday. Our own Breakfast Club on a Thursday continued to thrive and it is a great privilege to work with the student volunteers who make it all happen as well as Mrs Anton.



Myself and the Incredible Student Support Officer at Burwood Girls Liz Latham, also facilitated Youth Mental Health First Aid Training with several staff from both schools in attendance. Congratulations to those who spent two days upskilling in the area of Youth Mental Health. It was a content heavy two days such worthwhile and relevant training, which will also be run again this week with even more participants.

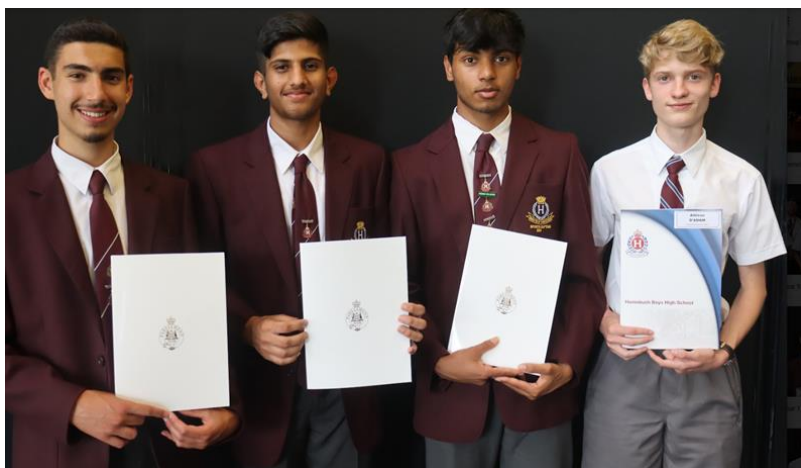
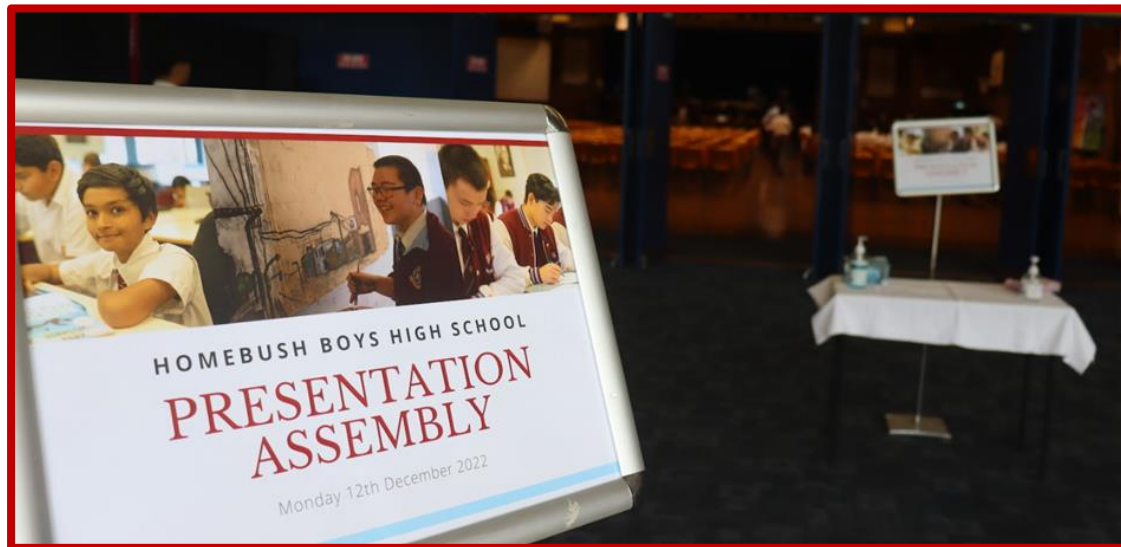


Congratulations also to the 2023 Year 12 students who participated in the Study Without Stress Program on a Wednesday afternoon. It was a pleasure facilitating the program with such amazing young people and I look forward to offering the program again next year.

I hope all students, families and staff are able to have a wonderful and restful break over the school holiday period and come back next year with great energy and gusto! I look forward to having more wellbeing initiatives occurring in 2023 and as always, please feel free to reach out if needed.

PRESENTATION DAY

Monday 12 December 2022
@ Marie Bashir, Homebush







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